

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: P.K. Gupta et al.

Attorney Docket No.: WEYE127079

Application No.: 10/636081

Art Unit: 1661 / Confirmation No.: 9824

Filed: August 6, 2003

Examiner: A.H. Para

Title: METHODS FOR PRODUCING CONIFER SOMATIC EMBRYOS

RESPONSE AFTER NON-FINAL REJECTION

Seattle, Washington 98101

April 5, 2010

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Claims 1–13, 17–19, 21, and 23–26 are pending in the application and stand rejected. Reconsideration and allowance of Claims 1–13, 17–19, 21, and 23–26 is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Interview Summary

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Para for the interview held on March 3, 2010. The participants in the interview were Examiner Annette H. Para and applicants' representative, Tineka J. Quinton. It is noted that the Examiner's interview summary mailed on March 16, 2010, incorrectly lists Teresa J. Wiant as participating in the interview. As indicated in the Examiner's interview summary, the Examiner has withdrawn the finality of the Office Action mailed January 4, 2010, in accordance with MPEP § 706.07(b). During the interview the Examiner also clarified that dependent Claims 25 and 26 should be listed with Claims 1–13, 15–19, 21, 23, and 24 in the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,294,549 (Pullman) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,563,061 (Gupta). The prior art of record was discussed, during which applicants' representative pointed out to the Examiner the differences between the method of singulation in Douglas-fir as taught by Pullman and the

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